Modesty BLAISE

THE GABRIEL SET-UP

by PETER O'DONNELL and JIM HOLDAWAY

THE GABRIEL SET-UP
THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM, NEAR THE AMERICAN BORDER, SOUTH OF WINNIPEG
COME IN—AND CLOSE THE DOOR, DR. REEVE
I'VE JUST HAD A CALL... GABRIEL'S OVER FROM EUROPE
GABRIEL! IS HE-ER—IS HE COMING HERE?

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WHAT ARE YOU SCARED OF? IT'S JUST A ROUTINE INSPECTION... EVEN GABRIEL CAN'T COMPLAIN! HE'S GETTING A GOOD JOB FROM US...
...WE'RE COUGHING OUT ENOUGH INFORMATION FROM THE CUSTOMERS TO EARN HIM A TRUCK LOAD OF DOUGH!
SURE, EDDIE... AND EVEN THE LEGITIMATE SIDE BRINGS IN PLENTY— SO WHAT ARE YOU SCARED OF?
GABRIEL... THAT'S WHAT

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
LOOK, I ONLY SAW THE BIG MAN ONCE, AND ALL I REALLY KNOW ABOUT HIM IS THAT HE PAYS ME THREE TIMES WHAT I COULD MAKE AS AN ORDINARY MEDIC
BUT I FIGURE WE'RE JUST ONE OF A WHOLE LOT OF DIFFERENT RACKETS THAT HE MASTERMINDS
SO?
SO HE SHOULDN'T BE ON OUR BACKS FOR TOO LONG— AND I DON'T SEE HE CAN FIND ANYTHING TO BEEF ABOUT ANYWAY!
SURE... I GUESS IT'S JUST THAT GABRIEL HIMSELF KIND OF... SPOOKS ME

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WHERE'S GABRIEL NOW?
"LAKESIDE"... BIG HOUSE, HALF-AN-HOUR'S DRIVE WEST, AND FOUR MILES OFF THE HIGHWAY — HE'S GOT A BUNCH OF HIS TOP EXECS THERE, FROM ALL OVER
HE'LL BE HERE TOMORROW, AND HE'LL WANT TO CHECK EVERY DEPARTMENT...
...BUT ESPECIALLY HE'LL WANT TO SEE US HANDLE A Cloud Nine OPERATION
ONLY ONE IN SIX YIELD PAY-DIRT — BUT I'LL HAVE A LIKELY PATIENT ON THE TABLE FOR HIM
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
YOU WANT ME TO TELL THE STAFF ABOUT GABRIEL COMING TO MAKE A CHECK-UP?
YES... DO THAT
WELL, NOT THE MUG-STAFF! I JUST MEAN THE GUYS IN THE SET-UP!
RELAX, EDDIE... WOULD I GO AROUND TELLING ALL OUR DEVOTED MEDICS AND NURSES THAT THEY'RE FRONTING FOR A RACKET?
SURE... WELL, THE STORY FOR THEM IS THAT A DR. RUSKIN, AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE, IS PAYING US A VISIT
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
GABRIEL COMES TO THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM
IT'S YOUR VISITOR, SIR—
AH, DR. RUSKIN! COME IN, COME IN! AND THANK YOU, SUSAN
WELL, WE CAN TALK NOW... I MUST SAY IT'S GREAT TO HAVE A VISIT FROM YOU
VARLEY... FIRST YOU TAKE ME ROUND, THEN YOU SHOW ME THE FILES, THEN YOU GIVE ME A VERBAL RUNDOWN ON EVERYTHING ...LET'S GO
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
A TOUR OF THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM
PLENTY OF CUSTOMERS?
A WAITING LIST — WE DON'T TAKE ANYONE REALLY SICK OF COURSE, JUST RICH NEUROTICS, RUN-DOWN TYCOONS, OVERWORKED GOVERNMENT PEOPLE...
OUR STAFF IS GOOD, AND WE HAVE ALL THE MODERN TECHNIQUES — SO OUR REPUTATION'S GROWING, AS I SAID IN MY LAST REPORT
WE'RE GETTING PEOPLE FROM ACROSS THE BORDER, TOO! TWO PENTAGON MEN SO FAR, AND—
VARLEY... THAT'S WHY I SITED YOU HERE

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WE HAVE GREAT FAITH IN THAT TREATMENT, MRS. HASCOMBE
OH, DR. VARLEY! I HAD MY FIRST SESSION IN 'Cloud Nine' YESTERDAY, AND I JUST HAVE TO TELL YOU I FEEL A NEW WOMAN!
WITH THE DIRT SHE DISHED UP ON HERSELF IN 'Cloud Nine' YOU CAN SQUEEZE HER FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE, GABRIEL
DON'T EVER START FIGURING WHAT I CAN DO WITH THE INFORMATION YOU GET FOR ME, VARLEY... COULD BE UNHEALTHY
SHOW ME 'Cloud Nine'
219
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
DOCTOR REEVE IS DUE TO RUN A Cloud Nine SESSION ABOUT NOW
ON?
ON A PATIENT WHO A TOP TECHNICIAN IN QUEBO PLASTICS... WE'LL WATCH FROM THE CONTROL-ROOM
JOHN HERE MAKES A FINE JOB OF THESE OPERATIONS
JOHN HERE IS PAID TO
220
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
IN THE SOFTLY-LIT, SOUNDPROOF ROOM CALLED 'Cloud Nine'...
I'M TOLD THIS WEIRDIE TREATMENT OF YOURS IS A WHOLE LOT BETTER THAN TRANQUILLISER PILLS, DR. REEVE
NOTHING WEIRDIE ABOUT IT, MR. VALE — JUST A CAREFUL COMBINATION OF PROVEN NATURAL METHODS OF INDUCING RELAXATION! THE CEILING AQUARIUM FOR VISUAL...
...SOFT MUSIC FOR AURAL WARM-WATER BED FOR TACTILE, AND SO ON
IF THIS GUY'S A CHEMIST WITH QUEBO PLASTICS HE SHOULD HAVE PLENTY TO TELL...
221
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
IN THE DIM, WARM LIGHT OF 'Cloud Nine', TO THE FAINT SOUND OF SLUMBROUS MUSIC, THE PATIENT WATCHES THE SLOW MOVEMENT OF TROPICAL FISH ABOVE
EVERYTHING JUST RIGHT?
FINE... BUT WON'T IT ALL BE WASTED IF I DOZE OFF?
IT WOULD — BUT YOU WON'T, MR. VALE! I'LL BE BACK IN TWO HOURS, AND IT'LL SEEM LIKE TEN MINUTES TO YOU... BUT YOU'LL STILL BE AWAKE, I PROMISE YOU
IN THE CONTROL ROOM...
HERE'S WHERE WE SWITCH IN THE SUBLIMINAL TAPES, GABRIEL — THE VISUAL AND THE AUDIO
222

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

IN THE CONTROL ROOM, GABRIEL WATCHES A 'cloud Nine' SESSION THROUGH TO ITS CONCLUSION

OKAY, WE'RE OFF THE AIR

NICE DIGGING, JOHN — LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT A RICH VEIN TO MINE THERE

WHEN THE TAPES TRANSCRIBED I'LL STUDY WHAT HE TOLD US, THEN RUN A FOLLOW-UP SESSION NEXT WEEK

WELL...! I HOPE YOU LIKED IT, GABRIEL!

I LIKED IT... NOW SHOW ME THE FILES

223

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

IN THE OFFICE OF DR. VARLEY, HEAD OF THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM

WE SIMPLY CLASSIFY ALL INFORMATION WE GET UNDER FOUR HEADS, LIKE YOU SAID — INDUSTRIAL SECRETS, FINANCIAL SECRETS, INTELLIGENCE... AND DIRT

FIRST CATEGORY GIVES THE BIGGEST YIELD, BUT INTELLIGENCE IS BUILDING UP NICELY

A.F.

EVERY COMPLETED FILE IS SENT TO YOUR MAN IN NEW YORK, AND THEN I IMAGINE HE GETS BUSY ON—

VARLEY... NONE OF MY PEOPLE IMAGINE WHAT THE OTHERS ARE BUSY ON... *EVER!*

224

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

OH, I'M NOT INQUISITIVE... BUT I READ HOW SHARMAN CHEMICALS SPENT FOUR MILLION BUCKS DEVELOPING A NEW ANTI-BIOTIC...

...THEN FALSTEIN'S IN GERMANY CAME OUT WITH IT A MONTH AHEAD AND AT A QUARTER THE PRICE! MUST HAVE PAID A BOMB FOR THAT SECRET — AND IT'S ONE WE DUG OUT FOR YOU *HERE!*

VARLEY... DON'T FIGURE BEYOND YOUR JOB, OR YOU'RE *OUT*... AND WITH WHAT YOU KNOW, I WOULDN'T JUST *FIRE* YOU — YOU READ ME?

225

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

GABRIEL FINISHES HIS INSPECTION OF THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM

226

HOW DID IT GO?

IT WENT FINE... SO I'M ONLY SWEATING... IF IT HADN'T, I'D BE SCARED SPITLESS

BUT I WISH LIKE HELL HE'D PICKED SOME PLACE OTHER THAN *'LAKESIDE'* TO HOLD A CONVENTION OF HIS TOP BRASS — IT'S TOO CLOSE

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WHY WORRY? GABRIEL WON'T BE BACK— HE'S CHECKED THE SET-UP, AND HE'S TOO BIG A MAN TO WASTE TIME
YES... I GUESS WE'RE JUST A PINT-SIZED MILLION-DOLLAR SIDELINE TO GABRIEL
SOME FOUR THOUSAND MILES AWAY, IN A RESTORED COTTAGE, STANDING SOLITARY AMID WOODLAND AND DOWNS...
ARE YOU SERIOUS, MODESTY?
YES, ANDY — YOU HAVE TO GO TODAY
227
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, MODESTY—
YOU DON'T HAVE TO... IT'S BEEN A NICE BREAK FOR BOTH OF US, AND NOW YOU'RE GOING BACK TO BUILDING BRIDGES IN BONGOLAND OR WHEREVER...
BUT I STILL HAVE A WEEK'S LEAVE TO GO— DAMMIT, SWEETHEART, WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING AT ALL, ANDY...
228
SO PLEASE LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY AND NOT GET POSSESSIVE, H'MM?
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
YOU NEEDN'T FEEL HURT, ANDY— IT'S JUST THAT I HAVE A FRIEND COMING DOWN FOR THE WEEK-END
MY SUCCESSOR?
I'M SORRY— THAT WAS A HELL OF A THING TO SAY, AND I DIDN'T MEAN IT... HERE, BREAK THIS OVER MY STUPID HEAD
229
COME ON, YOU CAN AFFORD IT, YOU BEAUTIFUL, MYSTERIOUS, STINKING-RICH WOMAN!
BRING THE HORSES WHILE I CHANGE, AND WE'LL HAVE A LAST RACE TO WYCHDALE BEACON, ACROSS THE DOWNS
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WELL, GOODBYE MODESTY... IT'S BEEN REALLY SOMETHING KNOWING YOU— AND I STILL HATE THIS FRIEND WHO'S ARRIVING, EVEN IF SHE'S YOUR MAIDEN AUNT.
HE'S A NICE OLD GENTLEMAN IN THE CIVIL SERVICE...
... COMING TO SHOOT CLAY PIGEONS OVER THE WEEK-END
VERY GOOD! YOU MUST COME ON A CAPER WITH WILLIE GARVIN AND ME SOMETIME, SIR GERALD
ANYTIME THAT YOU'RE DEALING WITH CLAY PIGEONS, MY DEAR
230

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
MODESTY SENDS ANOTHER CLAY PIGEON SOARING UP FROM THE TRAP
HMM! NOT SO GOOD... BUT I MUST SAY YOUR REMOTE-CONTROL ARRANGEMENT IS VERY CONVENIENT
WILLIE GARVIN ADAPTED A BANK OF 'PLUS TRAPS' AND WIRED THEM UP FOR ME— IT SAVES THE NEED FOR AN OPERATOR
231
I'VE SET THE TRAP FOR BOWLING CLAY RABBITS— DO YOU MIND IF I HAVE FIVE MINUTES PRACTICE WITH THIS COLT BEFORE WE GO BACK FOR TEA?
A PLEASURE TO WATCH YOU, MODESTY
SIR GERALD OPERATES THE REMOTE CONTROL, AND A DISC OF PITCH AND CHALK FLASHES ACROSS THE GROUND
LUCKY START— I USUALLY AVERAGE ONLY ONE IN THREE
PEOPLE, OF COURSE, MAKE MUCH LARGER AND SLOWER TARGETS... READY, MY DEAR?
232
I- AH- HOPE IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR YOU TO ENTERTAIN AN ELDERLY BACHELOR HERE?
THE VILLAGE ACCEPTS ME AS AN ECCENTRIC —YOU REALLY WON'T HARM MY REPUTATION
WILLIE GARVIN'S A GREAT FAVOURITE THERE WHEN HE COMES DOWN— DID YOU KNOW HE'S GONE LUMBERJACKING IN ONTARIO FOR A FEW MONTHS? WANTED TO LIVE RUGGED FOR A SPELL...
ONTARIO...? I WONDER IF HE'S HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT A PLACE CALLED THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM ...?
233
AHHH... YOU CAN'T IMAGINE HOW GOOD IT IS TO GET AWAY FOR A WHILE FROM ALL THE UNPLEASANT THINGS I HAVE TO DO
FOR A WHILE, YES... BUT THAT'S ALL
YOU AND WILLIE GARVIN DISCOVERED THAT, OF COURSE
AND YOU SOLVED THE PROBLEM FOR US... WHAT WERE YOU SAYING JUST NOW ABOUT A SANATORIUM IN CANADA?
THIS IS A SOCIAL VISIT, MY DEAR— I HAVE NO JOB LINED UP FOR YOU, TRULY
NEVER MIND ... I'D STILL LIKE TO HEAR MORE ABOUT IT, SIR GERALD
234

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
SOME VALUABLE INFORMATION CAME ON THE MARKET LAST MONTH — SOMETHING KNOWN ONLY TO ME AND TO ONE OF MY AGENTS, A MAN I TRUST COMPLETELY
I'M CERTAIN HE HASN'T TALKED OR EVEN BEEN INDISCREET... BUT HE SPENT A HOLIDAY IN CANADA FOUR MONTHS AGO, AND I KNOW HE TOOK A REST-CURE AT THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM!
I'M SORRY— I DON'T SEE THE CONNECTION
THERE ISN'T ONE, CONFOUND IT! I HAD THE PHOENIX QUIETLY CHECKED BY CANADIAN INTELLIGENCE, AND IT WAS CLEAN... BUT A VAGUE HUNCH STILL KEEPS NIGGLING AT ME
235
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
I WROTE TO WILLIE, ASKING IF HE'D HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM, AND I'VE JUST GOT HIS REPLY...
LONDON, TEN DAYS AFTER SIR GERALD'S VISIT TO MODESTY'S COTTAGE...
...IT LOOKS AS IF YOUR VAGUE HUNCH MIGHT BE WORTH FOLLOWING UP, SIR GERALD
WHAT DOES WILLIE SAY?
QUITE A LOT— BUT AMONG OTHER THINGS HE SAYS, "HE'S got that funny kind of smell that goes with a Gabriel set-up, princess..."
GABRIEL! GOOD LORD... CAN YOU COME ROUND RIGHT AWAY, MODESTY?
236
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WILLIE'S IN TOW WITH THE DAUGHTER OF CHARLES LANIER, THE LUMBER MILLIONAIRE — SHE'S A WILD-LIVING GIRL, IT SEEMS
STRANGE BEDFELLOWS, SURELY...?
OH, I USED THE WORD FIGURATIVELY, OF COURSE!
I'M SURE WILLIE DOESN'T, THE COLONEL'S LADY AND JUDY O'GRADY... YOU KNOW? THEY ALL LIKE WILLIE'S RUGGED PERSONALITY
AH! SO LANIER TOOK TREATMENT AT THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM TWO YEARS AGO
YES— NOW READ ON, AS THEY SAY
237
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
A LUMBER-KING GOES INTO THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM... AND SIX MONTHS LATER HE HAS TO PAY TWICE THE EXPECTED PRICE FOR A TRACT OF TIMBER COUNTRY HE'D SECRETLY BEEN PLANNING TO BUY...
238
YES— SOMEBODY GOT IN FIRST AND NETTED TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS PROFIT, SIR GERALD
YOUR AGENT AND CHARLES LANIER HAVE BOTH REVEALED SECRETS WITHOUT BEING AWARE OF IT— AND THEY'VE BOTH TAKEN TREATMENT AT THE PHOENIX
CURIOUS, TO SAY THE LEAST...

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WHEN WILLIE WRITES THAT THIS HAS ALL THE MARKS OF A GABRIEL SET-UP... WHAT DOES HE MEAN?
THAT IF IT'S A SET-UP, IT'S SOMETHING BIG, HIGHLY-ORGANISED ... AND BIZARRE
239
DOES 'GABRIEL' ACTUALLY EXIST? WE KNOW HIM ONLY AS A VAGUE PRESENCE, A WHISPERED NAME, CREDITED WITH BEING THE BRAINS BEHIND MAJOR CRIMINAL COUPS ALL OVER THE WORLD
GABRIEL EXISTS... I'VE MET HIM
CURIOSITY ALWAYS GIVES ME A CRAVING FOR OYSTERS — COME AND TELL ME ABOUT HIM OVER LUNCH, MODESTY
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
TELL ME ABOUT GABRIEL
I ONLY MET HIM ONCE, FOR A FEW MINUTES... IT WAS IN '59, WHEN I WAS RUNNING THE NETWORK, AND WE WERE PLANNING TO LIFT A GOLD SHIPMENT AT BEIRUT...
240
ONE OF GABRIEL'S GROUPS WAS ON THE SAME JOB, AND WE CROSSED WIRES... GABRIEL SENT FOR ME AND TOLD ME TO PULL OUT
AND YOU DID?
CHEAPER THAN FIGHTING AND LOSING A GANG WAR, SIR GERALD... GABRIEL WAS TOO BIG, AND I RAN THE NETWORK STRICTLY FOR PROFIT
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THE LADIES' ANNEXE OF RAND'S CLUB...
I NEED SOMEBODY TO LOOK AT THE PHOENIX FOR ME... TO FIND OUT WHETHER IT'S A SET-UP, AND IF SO, HOW IT WORKS
I HOPED I WOULDN'T HAVE TO ASK YOU THIS, MODESTY, BUT...
I'LL CABLE WILLIE GARVIN TO EXPECT ME IN WINNIPEG
241
ARE YOU SURE? YOU-AH-BACKED DOWN AGAINST GABRIEL ONCE BEFORE
I HAD OTHER THINGS TO ATTEND TO THEN... AND SO HAS GABRIEL NOW. IT GIVES ME SUFFICIENT EDGE, I THINK
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
AT THE LUMINOR HOTEL, IN TREMONT, ONTARIO, THE HEIRESS TO TIMBER MILLIONS IS THROWING A TANTRUM...
I'D LIKE TO RUN YOU UNDER A GANG-SAW, WILLIE GARVIN!
YOU'RE A LOW-DOWN, TWO-TIMING SKUNK!
242
NOW ISN'T THAT JUST WHAT I'VE ALWAYS TOLD YOU, MARJ?

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

YOU'RE NO TWO-BIT LUMBER JACK! JUST WHAT ARE YOU, WILLIE? WHY HAVE WE COME HERE? AND WHO'S THIS WOMAN YOU'RE MEETING FROM ENGLAND?
WELL... IT'S HUSH-HUSH, MARJ, BUT I'LL TELL YOU...

SHE'S A BUSINESS COLLEAGUE... WE'RE DOING AN UNDERCOVER INVESTIGATION FOR THE LONDON- CANADA ASSURANCE GROUP
THEN— YOU'RE A SHAMUS! A PRIVATE EYE!

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

Willie Garvin picks Modesty up at the airport . . .

MARJORIE LANIER? MISS MILLIONS HERSELF?
M'MM... I'LL GIVE HER THE OLD HEAVE-HO IF YOU RECKON SHE'LL GET UNDER OUR FEET, PRINCESS — BUT THEY'LL 'EAR THE BANG IN VANCOUVER!

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

At the Luminor Hotel...

DIDN'T YOU GO TO MEET SOMEONE CALLED MODESTY BLAISE?
I TOLD YOU, IT'S AN UNDERCOVER JOB, SWEET 'EART — NOW YOU GET ACQUAINTED WHILE I SEE ABOUT 'AVING THE LUGGAGE BROUGHT UP TO MODESTY'S SUITE

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY... WILLIE AND I JUST WORK TOGETHER. I'M NOT A GIRL-FRIEND
OKAY... BUT I'M WONDERING WHY NOT
IT WOULD SPOIL A PATTERN... BUT YOU'D HAVE TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT US BOTH TO UNDER-STAND THAT

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

SHE'S LIVED A LOT, MARJ— LEARNED TO GROW VERY YOUNG, OR SHE WOULDN'T'VE LIVED AT ALL
AND SHE REALLY DOESN'T CARE ABOUT YOU BEING WITH ME?

'COURSE NOT — WHY SHOULD SHE?
I GUESS SHE DOESN'T NEED TO CARE ...AND THERE'S CONFIDENCE FOR YOU... IF SHE DID CARE, I'D HAVE SOMETHING TO FIGHT

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

AH, DON'T TALK LIKE THAT, MARJ
NOW I'VE GOT SOMETHING I DON'T WANT TO LOSE— BUT IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK OUT THAT WAY, IS IT, WILLIE? YOU'RE JUST PASSING THROUGH...

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

WATCH HIM, WILLIE— HE WAS TAILING ME AT THE AIRPORT. I WONDERED IF HE'D SHOW UP HERE
AND I FIGURED I WAS A SMART TAIL— STILL, THEY TOLD ME YOU WERE GOOD, MISS BLAISE

WHO TOLD YOU?
MY OFFICE— I'M SAM BARTH, CANADIAN INTELLIGENCE... YOUR BIG CHIEF, TARRANT, TOLD US YOU WERE COMING, AND I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED AS YOUR LINK-MAN HERE

GLAD TO KNOW YOU, SAM... LET'S RELAX AND HAVE THAT DRINK
I'LL BE HAPPY TO— IT WAS REAL JUMPY HAVING THIS GUY WILLIE ON MY NECK... I GOT THE IDEA HE'S KIND OF SUDDEN
250

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WHAT DOES YOUR SERVICE KNOW ABOUT GABRIEL, SAM?
NOTHING FIRM... THREE YEARS BACK SOMEONE SOLD THE OPPOSITION A PINPOINT MAP OF EVERY RADAR STATION ON THE ARCTIC D.E.W. LINE
WE THINK THAT WAS GABRIEL. WE ALSO THINK THAT SOME GOOD STUFF WE'VE BOUGHT CAME FROM HIM. BUT HE NEVER DEALS DIRECT, SO WE DON'T KNOW
DOWN IN THE STATES, THE F.B.I. THINK HE'S GOT A FINGER IN THE COSA NOSTRA RACKETS. BUT WITH GABRIEL NOBODY KNOWS ANYTHING. IT'S ALL GUESSES
LET'S COME DOWN TO CASES NOW— THE PHOENIX!
251
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WE RAN A CHECK ON THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM A WHILE BACK, AT TARRANT'S REQUEST— AND IT SHOWED UP CLEAN
IT'S JUST A RITZY REST-HOME FOR FOLK WITH NERVOUS TROUBLES — EXPERT STAFF, LATEST EQUIPMENT AND METHODS, FINE RECORD OF SUCCESS - WITH THE DOUGH THEY MAKE, THEY DON'T NEED TO BE PHONEY!
252
FIND A SAFE DOCTOR TO RECOMMEND ME FOR TREATMENT, SAM... WHEN WILLIE AND TARRANT BOTH HAVE THE SAME HUNCH THAT'S WHERE I LAY MY BET
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
AT THE PHOENIX SANATORIUM..
RIGHT, MISS LESTER, I'LL HAVE YOU SHOWN TO YOUR ROOM NOW
THERE'LL BE A MEDICAL AND PSYCH ATTICAL CHECK UP THIS AFTERNOON.. AND THEN WE'LL BE ABLE TO WORK OUT AN INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMME OF TREATMENT FOR YOU
THANK YOU, DR VARLEY
IF YOU'RE LIKE MOST PEOPLE WHO COME HERE, YOU'LL HAVE A VARIETY OF PILLS IN THAT BAG, MISS LESTER— JUST GIVE THEM TO NURSE, PLEASE. WE DON'T LIKE THEM HERE
253
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
IS THIS NEW PATIENT PROMISING?
NOT VERY. SHE'S FROM ENGLAND. HER FATHER MAKES JAM AND MILLIONS
Jane Lester
WE JUST MIGHT GET SOMETHING OUT OF HER FOR THE STOCK MARKET FILES. BUT I DOUBT IT
MORE LIKELY TO GET SOME SQUEEZE-DIRT ON HER..
I SAW HER IN THE CORRIDOR JUST NOW, AND I'D SAY SHE'S GOT SECRETS, THAT ONE
254

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THAT LOOKS RATHER FUN, DR REEVE
IT'S THE CATHARSIS CENTRE WHERE A PATIENT CAN GET RID OF HIS AGGRESSIONS.. BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S FOR YOU, MISS LESTER – OUR TESTS SHOW YOU AS VERY WELL-ADJUSTED
I.. I DON'T FEEL THAT WAY
BORED AND IDLE ? IF WE MIX PLENTY OF EXERCISE IN WITH THE TREATMENTS AND SLAP IN A KINGSIZED BILL, SHE'LL GO AWAY HAPPY...
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
A NIGHT-CLUB IN TREMONT
WHERE'S MODESTY VANISHED TO THIS LAST WEEK ? YOU SAID YOU WERE WORKING ON SOME JOB TOGETHER WILLIE
WELL THIS WAY SUITS YOU, DOESN'T IT, MARC ?
IT WOULD – IF I DIDN'T KNOW YOU'LL GO RUNNING THE MOMENT SHE CROOKS HER FINGER YOU SMOOTH-TALKING RAT
HALLO, SAM, BARTH !
TAKE FIVE, MARC – I GOT TO SEE A BLOKE IN THE BAR
NOW JUST A MINUTE –!
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THE MANAGER, MARC – I WANT TO SAVE 'IM AN EARFUL
WHO'S THIS 'BLOKE' YOU'VE SUDDENLY GOT TO SEE ?
I WANT TO KNOW WHY THEY 'AVEN'T GOT A DOZEN RED ROSES 'ERE ON THE TABLE FOR YOU TONIGHT, LIKE I ORDERED
YOU DID ? OH, WILLIE...!
GAWD, I'M A DIABOLICAL LIAR...
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
SOMETHING COME UP, SAM ?
YEAH... THERE'S A BUNCH OF GUYS RENTED A BIG HOUSE WAY OFF THE HIGHWAY, ABOUT TWENTY MILES FROM THE PHOENIX
THEY'RE VISITORS, MOSTLY FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN... PAPERS IN ORDER, EVERYTHING ON THE LEVEL
SO ?
SO WE HAVE AN IDEA ONE OF THEM IS GABRIEL HIMSELF

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
IN THE PHOENIX GYMNASIUM
ONLY ANOTHER FIVE MINUTES, MISS LESTER
PADDY'S NEVER GOING TO BELIEVE HOW HARD I'VE WORKED HERE HE THINKS I'M LAZY
TEN MINUTES LATER
MY PROGRAMME OF TREATMENT HAS BEEN VERY EFFECTIVE, HONEY I JUST WISH THEY WEREN'T SO TERRIBLY STRICT ABOUT THE MEN HERE
OH WE MIX WITH THEM AT MEALS AND IN FREE PERIODS
WHO WANTS TO EAT WITH THEM? SAY, HAVE YOU BEEN THROUGH 'Cloud Nine' YET?
NO, BUT IT'S ON MY PROGRAMME FOR TOMORROW
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
I'n 'Cloud Nine...'
MUSIC SUIT YOU, MISS LESTER? NOT TOO LOUD?
FINE, THANK YOU... AND THIS BED THING'S A DREAM. WHA? DO I HAVE TO DO?
JUST RELAX AND LEAVE IT TO 'Cloud Nine'
AND THIS REALLY DOES SOMETHING FOR ME?
YOU'LL BE PLEASANTLY SURPRISED, MISS LESTER
OKAY... LET'S SWITCH IN THE SUBLIMINAL TAPES
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
MODESTY BLAISE LIES IN THE QUIET SOLITUDE OF 'Cloud Nine', SOFT MUSIC IN HER EARS, WATCHING THE TROPICAL FISH DRIFTING SLOWLY IN THE AQUARIUM CEILING
BUT WITH THE MUSIC COMES A SUB AUDIO VOICE TOO QUIET FOR THE CONSCIOUS MIND TO REGISTER
YOU ARE COMFORTABLE, RELAXED, SLEEPY... NOTHING WILL DISTURB YOU...
Relax your body... you are growing sleepy... your eyes are closing...
AND EVERY FEW SECONDS SOMETHING FLICKERS ON THE GLASS CEILING ... FLICKERS AND IS GONE TOO SWIFTLY TO AROUSE AWARENESS
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
AS THE UNHEARD VOICE SPEAKS, AND THE UNSEEN COMMANDS FLASH ON THE SCREEN ABOVE, MODESTY'S EYES CLOSE
your body relaxed... your mind at rest
Sleep... sleep...
Deeper... deeper... sleep
FIVE MINUTES... LOOKS LIKE SHE'S UNDER OKAY, I'LL TEST NOW
A BRIEF TWO-HUNDRED VOLT SHOCK IS PASSED THROUGH MODESTY'S BODY FROM HIDDEN ELECTRODES IN THE BED — BUT IT BRINGS NO REACTION FROM HER

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
MODESTY BLAISE LIES UNDER DEEP HYPNOSIS, WITHOUT EVER KNOWING THAT THE TECHNIQUE HAS BEEN APPLIED
CUTTING OUT THE SUBLIMINAL TAPES NOW
HERE'S WHERE WE GO ON TO DIRECT VOICE AT NORMAL VOLUME I ALWAYS START WITH ROUTINE STUFF, TO ESTABLISH A PATTERN OF QUESTION AND ANSWER
263
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
YOU FEEL COMPLETELY RELAXED. YOU FEEL SAFE AND COMFORTABLE...
Jane Lester
THE VOICE MURMURS SOOTHINGLY IN MODESTY'S EAR
And you want to tell me all about yourself... you want to tell me everything
NOW, WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
I... DON'T KNOW...
264
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THAT'S CRAZY! SHE MUST KNOW HER OWN NAME!
SHE SAYS NOT AND SHE CAN'T TELL ES UNDER DEEP HYPNOSIS; LET'S TRY IT ANOTHER WAY
IN THE Cloud Nine CONTROL ROOM...
Who are you?
I AM ..
265
...MODESTY BLAISE
SHE'S BOOKED IN AS JANE LESTER! THERE'S SOMETHING PHONEY HERE, JOHN!
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THE Cloud Nine SESSION CONTINUES... THE SOFT VOICE MURMURS URGENT, PROBING QUESTIONS
Why did you come here?
Were you sent by somebody?
Why are you using a false name?
Who sent you?
SHE'S NOT ANSWERING! YOU CAN'T HAVE GOT HER PROPERLY UNDER!
SHE'S UNDER DEEP HYPNOSIS OKAY. BUT HER SUBCONSCIOUS IS FIGHTING LIKE HELL TO KEEP ME OUT
THERE'S A DEFENCE-MECHANISM AT WORK THAT MUST HAVE BEEN BUILT IN TO HER MIND A LONG TIME AGO
KEEP TRYING JOHN, AND LET ME KNOW IF SHE BREAKS — I'LL BE IN MY OFFICE
266

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
DR. HARLEY? I'VE SPENT AN HOUR TRYING ALL WAYS TO ESTABLISH RAPPORT WITH THIS GIRL, BUT NO DICE...
ANY LONGER AND THE MENTAL CONFLICT MIGHT BE TOO STRONG FOR ME TO ERASE. I MEAN SHE COULD WAKE UP REMEMBERING IT!
ALL RIGHT, JOHN — SPEND THE USUAL HALF HOUR ON MAKING HER FEEL LIKE A MILLION DOLLARS WHEN SHE WAKES UP THEN, COME AND SEE ME
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
AS I COUNT TO TEN, YOU'LL WAKE UP. YOU WON'T REMEMBER BEING ASLEEP. YOU'LL FEEL WONDERFULLY WELL, RELAXED, HAPPY... ONE, TWO, THREE...
...EIGHT, NINE, TEN...
OH BACK ALREADY, DR REEVE? DID YOU FORGET SOMETHING?
268
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
FROM COVER IN THE WOODS SURROUNDING 'LAKESIDE', WILLIE GARVIN AND SAM BARTH KEEP WATCH
SOMEONE'S COME OUT ON THE DRIVE, SAM
269
IT'S ERIC SUB CONTRACTOR FOR GABRIEL IN ISTANBUL
AH, THERE'S A CAR COMING...
O!-O! THAT'S RICOO! PERSONAL ASSISTANT... NEVER SAYS A WORD, AN' NEVER STRAYS MORE THAN FOUR FOOT FROM GABRIEL 'IMSELF
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THAT'S GABRIEL ALL RIGHT. TAKE A LOOK AT 'IM, SAM... SEEMS LIKE HE'S GOT ALL 'IS TOP BRASS 'ERE
FOR A JOB?
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, MORE LIKELY. REPORTS AN BRIEFING. THIS LOT'S MANAGEMENT, NOT WORKERS
HARLEY PHONED — SAYS THERE'S SOMETHING COME UP AT THE PHOENIX YOU OUGHT TO KNOW ABOUT
270

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

YOU RANG ME, VARLEY— WHY?
WELL, I—I GUESS MAYBE IT'S NOTHING AT ALL, BUT WE JUST RAN A Cloud Nine SESS ON ON A WOMAN CALLED JANE LESTER
AND I DIDN'T WORK EVEN UNDER DEEP HYPNOSIS THE ONLY THING WE DUG OUT WAS THAT HER REAL NAME IS "MODESTY BLAISE"
I DON'T KNOW IF THE NAME RINGS ANY BELL WITH YOU
VARLEY... STOP TALKING AND LISTEN

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

THERE'S SOMEONE WE KNOW AT THE PHOENIX - MODESTY BLAISE
DIDN'T SHE RETIRE, OVER A YEAR AGO?
VARLEY WHAT YOU DO IS DISCHARGE THIS WOMAN IN THE USUAL WAY AND GIVE ME THE ADDRESS WHERE SHE'S STAYING - I'LL TAKE IT FROM THERE
272
OKAY, GABRIEL, SHE'S DUE OUT TOMORROW AND I HAVE HER ADDRESS RIGHT HERE - SHE'S STAYING AT THE LUMINOR IN TREMONT

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

I HOPE YOU FEEL WE'VE DONE A GOOD JOB ON YOU HERE, MISS-AH-LESTER
IT'S MARVELLOUS FEEL ON TOP OF THE WORLD
THAT'S WHAT WE LIKE TO HEAR... SHALL I SEND OUR ACCOUNT TO YOU AT THE LUMINOR?
YES, I'LL BE STAYING IN TREMONT FOR A WHILE YET
TWO HOURS LATER AT THE LUMINOR...
WELL, THERE'S HER CAR... YOUR HEART THROB'S BACK, WILLIE
YOU'RE MY EARTHROB MARJ OOH AT ALL THE SLEEP I'VE LOST OVER YOU
273

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

EVENING AT THE LUMINOR
FANCY A SHUFFLE, PRINCESS? MARJ SAYS MY FEET HURT HER
HE'S A BAR. HE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU
WELL, HOW DID THINGS GO AT "THE PHOENIX" PRINCESS?
I WISH I KNEW WILLIE LOVE... THE PLACE CHECKED OUT CLEAN, AND I DIDN'T LEARN A THING... BUT SOMETHING HAPPENED TO ME THERE
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS BUT I CAN STILL FEEL IT THAT SOME WAY OR OTHER I'VE BEEN PUT UNDER PRESSURE TO TALK...
274

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
DID THEY USE ANY DRUGS IN THE TREATMENT?
NEVER! THEY MAKE A POINT OF THAT AND I WAS WATCHING FOR IT... NO THEY DIDN'T PUT ME TO SLEEP AT ANY TIME, WILL E
AH! GOT SOMETHING?
UNLESS...!
THE Cloud Nine TREATMENT... TWO HOURS SEEMED LIKE TEN MINUTES ...THAT COULD BE IT!
275
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WILLIE, WE'VE GOT TO HAVE A CLOSE LOOK AT THAT Cloud Nine SET UP
KAY WHEN?
TOMORROW NIGHT WE CAN'T MAKE IT EARLIER. AND WE MUSTN'T MAKE IT LATER... NOT WITH GABRIEL IN THE FIELD
RIGHT, I'LL HAVE THE GEAR CHECKED BY THEN.
ERE, CHEER UP MARJ! YOU GOT STEPNEY'S FAVOURITE BOY AT YOUR BECK AN CALL — WHAT MORE COULD A GIRL ASK FOR?
WILL YOU GO AND HAVE A DRINK AT THE BAR, WILL E? I WANT TO TALK TO MODESTY..
276
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
GO AHEAD, MARJORIE
DON'T RUSH ME— I'VE NEVER HAD TO BEG FOR ANYTHING BEFORE AND IT COMES HARD
YOU WOULDN'T KNOW HOW HARD
MIGHT I WAS BEGGING FOR SCRAPS WHEN YOU GOT YOUR FIRST DE LUXE KIDDY CAR
THEN YOU CAN GIVE ME SOME TIPS ON TECHNIQUE - HOW DO I GO ABOUT BEGGING FOR A MAN?
YOU DON'T MARJORIE, THE TRICK IS NOT TO BEG FOR WHAT PEOPLE CAN'T GIVE
277
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WHEN YOU AND WILLIE HAVE FINISHED WHATEVER YOU'RE DOING DON'T TAKE HIM AWAY... PLEASE
I WON'T TAKE HIM AWAY, MARJORIE
BUT I CAN'T MAKE HIM STAY
I CAN, I'M SURE OF IT SO LONG AS YOU DON'T FIGHT ME
IN THE BAR...
HALLO, WILLIE WHERE'S YOUR BOSS? I WANT A WORD WITH HER
WELL... IF IT ISN'T LEE! SMALL WORLD, EH?
278

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
JUST RAN INTO AN OLD FRIEND, PRINCESS —
WE'LL SKIP THE CHAT
GABRIEL WANTS TO SEE YOU
WHERE, WHEN AND WHAT ABOUT?
"LAKESIDE," TEN O'CLOCK TOMORROW MORNING, AND HE'LL TELL YOU WHAT ABOUT
ALL RIGHT, LER YOU CAN SAY WE'LL BE THERE
279
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
MORNING IN TREMONT
WILLIE, - DON'T WANT YOU TO GO WHEREVER IT'S WITH MODESTY TODAY ...THAT MAN, LAST NIGHT, LOOKED LIKE TROUBLE TO ME- BAD TROUBLE
WE'LL BE BACK FOR LUNCH, MARJ...
IT'S ONLY A LITTLE BUSINESS CHAT
WILLIE! WHAT—?
BE T UP AN GET OUT A CLEAN SHIRT FOR ME THERE'S A GOOD GIRL
280
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
ANSWER ME DAMN YOU, WILLIE! WHO IS THIS MAN GABRIEL? AND WHY ARE YOU CARRYING THOSE.. THOSE KNIVES?
HE'S NOT— LEAVE THEM, WILLIE, AND LET'S GET GOING.. WE WON'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE TODAY
HIS MASTER'S VOICE.. WHEN SHE SAYS 'FROG' YOU JUMP, HUH?
IT'S A WINNING SYSTEM MARJ — ONCE YOU'VE GOT LUCKY YOU STICK WITH IT
281
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
HERE'S WHERE WE TURN OFF THE HIGHWAY, WILLIE
RIGHT
YOU DON'T RECKON WE'RE STICKING OUR NECKS OUT THEN, PRINCESS?
NOT YET.. WE'VE BEEN SUMMONED SO GABRIEL CAN WARN US OFF THE WAY WE DID ONCE BEFORE IN THE OLD DAYS
A FEW MINUTES LATER...
THEY'RE HERE, GABRIEL — ON THE DOT
WHAT ELSE? SHE'S NO FOOL

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

YOU CAN TELL GABRIEL WE'RE HERE
HE KNOWS... STAND STILL FOR A CHECK
NO BLADES, WILLE?
WHAT, ME? "I AM FOR PEACE," MATEY— PSALM 'UNDRED AND TWENTY VERSE SEVEN
YOU ASKED TO SEE LIL GABRIEL — WHAT'S WORRYING YOU?
I DIDN'T ASK. AND NOTHING WORRIES ME
YOU WERE AT THE PHOENIX UNDER A FALSE NAME— WHAT'S YOUR ANGLE?
THAT'S STRICTLY MY BUSINESS... IF YOU WANT IN, YOU BUY IN
284
LIVE AN' LET LIVE— WE'RE NOT SNARLING UP ANY SET-UP OF YOURS
YOU'RE IN ERROR, GARVIN
YOU GOT UNDER MY FEET BY ACCIDENT ONCE BEFORE, BUT YOU HAD THE SENSE TO MOVE OUT WHEN I TOLD YOU TO NOW, I'M TELLING YOU AGAIN
WHATEVER YOU'RE PLAYING FOR, YOU QUIT NOW— JUST LET IT GO
I'VE PUT IN TIME AND MONEY. WILL YOU MAKE ME AN OFFER?
A HANDSOME ONE - YOU MOVE OUT NOW, AND I'LL LET YOU STAY ALIVE
285
LOOK, I'LL MAKE A DEAL WITH YOU—
THE TALKING'S OVER. YOU GET OUT OF ONTARIO, AND YOU STAY OUT
WARNING YOU OFF IS ONLY A LITTLE LESS TROUBLE THAN KILLING YOU... BETTER KEEP IT THAT WAY
ALL RIGHT... HOW LONG HAVE WE GOT?
I'LL MAKE IT TWENTY-FOUR HOURS — AS A CONCESSION FOR GOOD SENSE
286

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
YOU PLAYED THAT LOVELY PRINCESS DUG YOU? 'EELS N JUST ENOUGH TO MAKE LOOK GOOD
287
WHEN GABRIEL FINDS OUT WE CONNED H.M. HE'LL G.VE ORDERS TO KILL
M MM I WONDER F HE'S GOT SOME LOCAL 'ATCHET-MEN ON CALL?
WHERE'S THE NEED? HE'S GOT SIX OR SEVEN OF HIS TOP BRASS WITH HIM— THEY MAY BE CHARBORNE NOW BUT THEY ALL CAME UP THE HARD WAY
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
AFTER MIDNIGHT IN THE LUMINOR HOTEL, MARJORIE LANIER ROUSES FROM SLEEP — TO FIND HERSELF ALONE . . .
WILLIE...?
WILL E! WHERE THE HELL ARE YOU?
IN MODESTY'S SUITE...
DOES MARJ KNOW WE'RE ON OUR WAY?
NO, I LEFT 'ER ASLEEP — BEST WAY TO SAVE ANY ARGUMENT
288
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WILLIE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
JUST POPPIN' OUT TO CLEAR UP THE JOB WE CAME 'ERE FOR, MARJ
YOU'VE GOT THOSE KNIVES ON YOU! AND SHE'S GOT A GUN!
MARJ YOU'RE SETTING UNDER OUR FEET
289
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
LOOK MARJ BELT UP, SEE?
DON'T GO WITH HER, WILLIE!
JUST TAKE A COUPLE OF SLEEPING-PILLS AND GO TO BED I'LL SEE YOU 'N THE MORNING
AND LISTEN, MARJ.. MOUTHS WILL BE WORN SHUT!

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
JUST A MORTICE LOCK...
RIGHT PRINCESS WE'RE IN
At the Cloud Nine section of the PHOENIX SANATORIUM
SEE IF YOU CAN TRACE THE WIRING FROM THAT COUCH... WILLIE IT BRINGS IN MUSIC FROM SOMEWHERE
THREE MINUTES LATER
BLIMEY, YOU DON'T NEED THIS LOT JUST FOR PIPED MUSIC!
SEE WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT. WE CAN PUT THE LIGHTS ON. THERE ARE NO WINDOWS
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
After a quarter of an hour of checking and experiment in the Cloud Nine control room
THAT'S HOW IT WORKS PRINCESS — LOOK IN TUNE UP THE BACKGROUND VOICE AN' HOLD THE VISUAL
..You are growing sleepy, your eyes are closing...
SO THE PATIENT IS HYPNOTISED WITHOUT EVER KNOWING IT... ALL RIGHT WILLIE, LET'S TAKE VARLEY'S OFFICE NOW
YOU WANT TO SLEEP... SLEEP...
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
VARLEY MUST HAVE FILES OF THE INFORMATION THAT'S AUG OUT OF PATIENTS UNDER HYPNOSIS
THEY'D BE PASSED ON TO ONE OF GABRIEL'S BLOKES FOR ACTION I S'POSE
Pssst
At the second attempt, the rubber-covered hooks of the grapnel, fired by compressed air catch on the sill of Varley's office
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
TOO MUCH FOR US TO CARRY AND THESE ARE ONLY CURRENT FILES
I BET OL' SIR G WOULD LIKE TO GET HIS HOOKS ON THIS LOT PRINCESS!
BUT THEY'RE BOUND TO KEEP FULL RECORDS HERE FOR CHECKING BACK PROBABLY ON MICROFILM. HOW LONG DO YOU NEED TO CRACK THAT PETER?
'BOUT TWENTY MINUTES
IN VARLEY'S BEDROOM, ON AN UPPER FLOOR.
THIS IS GABRIEL.. LISTEN VARLEY, YOU'VE GOT VISITORS

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
COME ON SWEETIE .. AH THERE'S A PET EASY NOW HONEY GIRL ROLL OVER FOR WILLIE
LOST IN TOTAL CONCENTRATION, WILLIE GARVIN PEERS CARESSINGLY UNDER HIS BREATH AS THE LONG MINUTES CREEP BY.
AHH THAT'S ME LITTLE BEAUTY!
SHE'S DONE, PRINCESS
YOU DON'T CRACK THEM WILLIE LOVE — YOU SEDUCE THEM
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
MICRO FILM RECORDS
LOVELY
PUT THEM IN YOUR PACK AND LET'S GET GOING, WILLIE
HOLD ON PRINCESS LOOKS LIKE WE GOT PEOPLE TROUBLE
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THAT'LL BE GABRIEL'S LOT WAITING FOR US— THEY'LL HAVE FOUND OUR CAR, TOO
I'LL DRAW THEM . YOU FIND YOUR OWN WAY OUT AND GET CLEAR WITH THOSE MICRO-FILMS
NO WILLIE THE ONLY SURE WAY OUT NOW IS ACROSS COUNTRY ON FOOT, AND YOU'RE STRONG ON THAT
THAT WAY ROUND? YOU COULD TAKE THE FILMS, AN'—
WHAT'S YOUR WAY THEN?
WHEN WE KEPT THEM BUSY A WHILE, I'LL TRY TO TAKE THEIR CAR . SO I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU IN TREMONT IN THE ANY EVENT
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
YOU GOT ANYTHING PREMIUM? THIS SIDE WE GOT SOMEONE CLIMBING DOWN FROM A WINDOW . . LOOKS LIKE THE BLAISE WOMAN
YEAH YOU THREE STAY THAT SIDE AND WATCH FOR GARVIN . WE'LL PICK HER UP OKAY MORGENE AND CREVER HAVE GOT HER BRACKETED RIGHT BETWEEN THEM

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THE RUBBER-COVERED GRAPNEL SWINGS IN AN ARC
OHH!
A PERFECT KICK TURNS NORSTENE'S WHOLE ARM TO NERVELESS PUTTY... AND POISED IN MODESTY'S HAND IS HER FAVOURITE WEAPON, THE KONGO
299
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THE LITTLE WOODEN KONGO STRIKES A NERVE-CENTRE, AND THE MAN GOES DOWN AS IF UNDER AN IRON FIST
SHE'S TAKEN NORSTENE! GET YOUR MEN ACROSS TO THE WEST SIDE FAST PREMM! STOP HER REACHING THE WOODS!
BY THE EAST WING OF THE PHOENIX WILLIE GARVIN SEES HIS LINE OF ESCAPE CLEARED
MODESTY'S DRAWN 'EM OFF ALL RIGHT... 'OPE TO GOD SHE DON'T PUSH HER LUCK TOO MUCH
300
MODESTY
by PETER O'DONNELL
A SHOT AT LONG RANGE, FROM A SILENCED GUN...
SHE GOT TO COVER, LERI AND IT'S MY GUESS WE'VE LET GARVIN OUT NOW!
SPREAD OUT AND HERD HER THIS WAY, I'LL PICK UP CREVIER AND MEET YOU!
STAY AT THE WHEEL AND KEEP THE ENGINE RUNNING, RICCO - ONCE WE GET BLAISE WE'LL HIT THE ROAD AFTER GARVIN
301
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THE HUNT...
CAN'T START A SHOOTING MATCH TOO MANY GUNS AGAINST ME
FACE AND HANDS HIDDEN, MODESTY MERGES WITH THE TREE - AND FREEZES...
302

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THE GORDON HOUSES MODESTY BY
TRY FOR THEIR CAR NOW ... THEY'LL HAVE MINE WE'LL COVERED
ACROSS THE GROUNDS, NORSTEINE RECOVERS FROM THE STUNNING EFFECT OF THE KONGO
I'LL KILL THAT CLEVER BITCH...
303
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
CAN'T GET HIM CLEAN WHILE HE'S IN THE CAR
ENGINE'S RUNNING... STOP THAT AND I OUGHT TO BRING HIM OUT FOR A LOOK UNDER THE BONNET
304
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WITH THE EXHAUST BLOCKED, THE IDLING ENGINE FALTERS THEN STOPS, AND THE STARTER LABOURS IN VAIN
SHE'S DEAD! NOW WHAT THE HELL ?
RICCO STEPS OUT OF THE CAR AND GLANCES BACK
305
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
AHH!
AS RICCO IS SMASHED TO THE GROUND NORSTEINE APPEARS
GOT TO GET OUT FAST NOW AND TO HELL WITH THE NOISE!
306
THE SHARP REPORT OF THE AUTOMATIC ECHOES THROUGH THE WOODS

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
NORSTENE! WHAT HAPPENED?
SHE GOT CLEAR
GET HER CAR AND GO AFTER HER ... TAKE NORSTENE INTO THE PHOENIX AND PHONE GABRIEL
MY GOD HE'LL HAVE THE HIDE OFF US FOR THIS...
307
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
YEAH, I-I GUESS THAT'S IT GABRIEL THE BOYS HAVE GONE AFTER BLAISE BUT WE FIGURE IT'S GARVIN WHO'S GOT THE MICRO FILM RECORDS
AS OR JARLEY ATTENDS TO NOR-
WHAT'S THIS YOU HAD ON THE ROUND?
UH? HER SWEATER ... IT WAS THERE. I DON'T KNOW HOW
308
LOOK HOLD IT GABRIEL— YEAH I KNOW WE LET THE DAME BEAT US - BUT I JUST GOT AN ANGLE! LISTEN THERE'S THIS SWEATER SHE WAS WEARING...
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
TWO CARS SCREAM THROUGH THE NIGHT...
AFTER ME IN MY OWN CAR, AND IT'S FASTER
WONDER WHERE THE HELL THIS ROAD COMES OUT.
U.S. BORDER IN THREE MILES, AND NO TURN-OFFS - YOU DON'T TAKE HER SOON AND WE LOSE HER CREVIER!
TELL IT TO THE CAR!
309
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
HOLD IT! THE BORDER POST!
IN THE LEADING CAR MODESTY KEEPS HER FOOT DOWN
HOLY JUMPIN —! DID YOU SEE WHAT SHE WAS WEARING?
SHE WASN'T! MUST HAVE BEEN SOME PARTY MIKE! YOU'D BETTER— AH NO, SHE'S STOPPING
310

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
LADY YOU'RE N TROUBLE – RIGHT UP TO YOUR EARS
NOT SO DEEP AS I WAS N JUST NOW
ON THE CANADIAN SIDE OF THE BORDER, GABRIEL'S MEN TURN BACK
311
YOU'L WANT THIS FOR THE TIME BE NG - CAN I TALK TO SOMEBODY WHO CAN TALK TO SOMEBODY N CANADIAN SECURITY ABOUT ME ?
I WOULDN'T KNOW THAT'S A BIG QUESTION WITH A SLOW ANSWER LADY
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
THIS IDEA WORKS— WHETHER THE BOYS CATCH BLAISE OR NOT GABRIEL! GARV N'S GOT THE MICROFILMS, SO 'TIS HIM WE WANT..
AND I KNOW GARVIN, IF HE RECKONS WE'VE K LLED HER WE WON'T HAVE TO GO LOOK NG FOR H M ...HELL COME TO US!
WE GOT HER SWEATER WITH BLOOD ALL OVER IT AND WE CAN—
I DON'T NEED DIAGRAMS LERI DO IT
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
AT THE HOTEL LUMINOR IN THE EARLY HOURS MAR ORIE LANIER WAKES
WILLIE?
STAY QUIET AND YOU DON'T GET H RT .. GOT A ME SSAGE FOR YOU TO TELL GARVIN — T'S FROM GABRIEL, YOU GOT THAT NAME?
YOU GIVE GARVIN THIS, AND YOU TELL HIM WE DID T SLOW REAL SLOW...
MODESTY'S BLOOD STAINED SWEATER, RIPPED AND CUT NOW
313
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
GABRIEL'S PLACE — 'LAKESIDE'
I COULD HIRE TOUGHER INVALIDS .. YOU LET A HUNDRED AND THIRTY POUNDS OF WOMAN MAKE MUSH OUT OF YOU!
WE COULDN'T GO INTO THE STATES AFTER HER—
IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW AND THAT MAKES YOU LUCKY BLASE 'S PINNED DOWN THERE N BIG TROUBLE WITH THE POLICE.
...SO LERI'S MOVE WITH GARVIN'S GIRL S GOING TO WORK OUT OKAY FOR US
314

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

OKAY, GABRIEL - THAT DAME OF GARVIN'S BELIEVES WE'VE KILLED THE BLAISE WOMAN... AND HELL BELIEVE IT TOO
THEN WE'LL HAVE SOME ACTION IN A FEW HOURS

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

IN A UNITED STATES POLICE H.Q.
NOT YET, MODESTY— WHAT GOES ON?
MEET ME AT THE LUMINOR IN A COUPLE OF HOURS AND I'LL TELL YOU. WILLIE SHOULD HAVE SHOWED UP THERE BY THEN

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

AT THE HOTEL LUMINOR, SOON AFTER DAWN

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
FOR GOD'S SAKE COME AWAY WITH ME WILLIE! THEY'VE KILLED MODESTY AND THEY'LL KILL YOU TOO!
YOU'LL 'AVE TO EXCUSE ME, MARU. I GOT SOMETHING TO DO
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WILLIE! PLEASE!
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
IN MODESTY'S SUITE
YOU CAN'T HELP MODESTY NOW, LOOK WE CAN BE OUT OF TOWN IN AN HOUR—
DON'T KEEP TALKIN', MARU, PLEASE
I WANT YOU TO RING A BLOKE CALLED SAM BARTH 'ERE'S THE NUMBER
GET SAM ROUND 'ERE, TELL 'IM WHAT'S APPENED AND SAY I'VE LEFT A BOX OF 'IM CROFILM AT JACEY'S ALL-NIGHT GARAGE FOR 'IM TO COLLECT
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
JUST WANTED MODESTY'S OTHER GUN— THE COLT '32
SHE ALWAYS SAYS -
SHE ALWAYS USED TO SAY I COULDN'T HIT THE FLOOR WITH A GUN— AN SHE WAS RIGHT, MARU
STILL 'D LIKE TO 'AVE IT ALONG
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
MASSIVE AND METHODICAL, WILLIE GARVIN CHECKS THE COLT, THEN HIS KNIVES
YOU'RE GOING TO GET YOURSELF KILLED FOR HER! THAT WON'T BRING HER BACK!
BUT YOU DON'T CARE! YOU WERE ALWAYS CRAZY ABOUT HER, WEREN'T YOU?
NOT THE WAY YOU MEAN, MARU - BIGGER'N THAT
WELL, I GOT TO GO ALONG NOW... SORRY ABOUT EVERYTHING
NO!

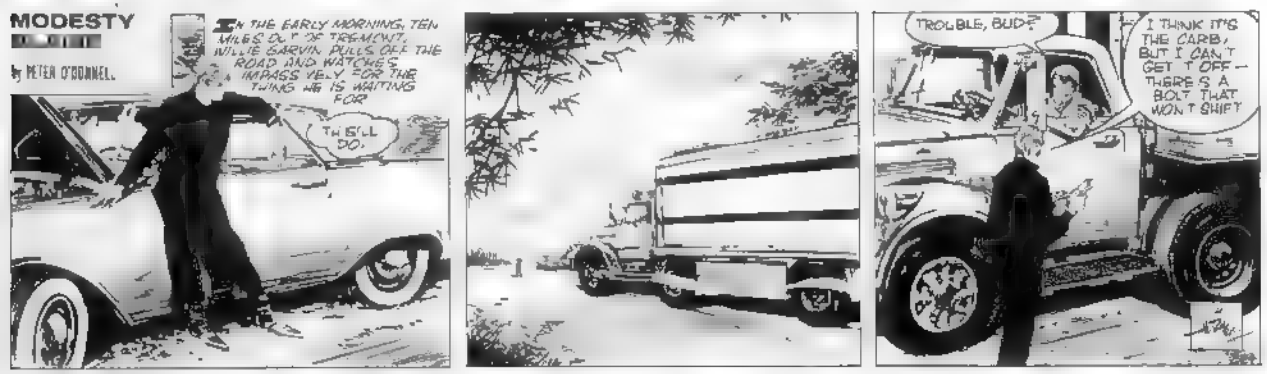
MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

YOU-YOU FOOL WILLIE! I WON'T LET YOU DO IT!
NOW DON'T FORGET, MARV, YOU PHONE SAM BARTH LIKE I SAID. SOON AS YOU WAKE UP
WAKE UP...?
YES, MAM.
329

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL


IN THE EARLY MORNING, TEN MILES OUT OF TREMONT, WILLIE GARVIN PULLS OFF THE ROAD AND WATCHES A MASS YELLOW THING HE IS WAITING FOR
THAT'LL DO!
TROUBLE, BUD?
I THINK IT'S THE CARB, BUT I CAN'T GET IT OFF — THERE'S A BOLT THAT WON'T SHIFT

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

YOU GETTING GAS THROUGH TO THE CARB, MISTER?
LOOK FORGET IT
'ERE'S THE THICK END OF TWO UNPREP BLOKS JUST SO YOU WON'T FEEL SO BAD ABOUT IT
TWO QID?
WILLIE STRIKES THAI-STYLE WITH THE ELBOW
325

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

AT THE WHEEL OF THE MONSTER TRUCK WILLIE GARVIN DRIVES STEADILY ON — AND TURNS OFF A CINDER ROAD WHICH LEADS ONLY TO GABRIEL'S HOUSE — "LAKESIDE."
ALL RIGHT, PRINCESS, I KNOW THEY'RE WAITING FOR ME. BUT IT'S GOIN TO BE A BIT ARDER THAN THEY RECKON
IN THE BIG HOUSE ..
GARVIN'S SMART.. WHEN HE COMES HE'LL COME SNEAKY, SO GET SET NOW AND KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN
326

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

TIME YOU BIG EXECS GOT BACK TO A LITTLE FIELD WORK IT SHOULDN'T BE TOO TOUGH FOR EIGHT OF YOU TO TAKE GARVIN
THEY ALL KNOW I WANT HIM BREATHING?
YOU'LL GET HIM ALIVE GABRIEL...
HE'S GOT A HUNDRED-FIFTY YARDS CLEAR GROUND TO CROSS WHICHEVER WAY HE COMES — AND HE GOT MEN AT WINDOWS EVERY SIDE ALL GOOD GUNS
327

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

MODESTY REACHES THE HOTEL LUMINOR
SAM WHAT'S GOING ON?
LOOK 'NOW' WILL YOU QUIT GIVING ME THIS CRAZY STORY ABOUT MODESTY BEING DEAD I TOLD YOU SHE PHONED ME
HE THE MAN SAID YOU WERE DEAD — WE BELIEVED IT WILLIE —
328
TAKE IT QUIETLY MARY FROM THE TOP NOW — WHAT HAPPENED?

MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

MARY STUMBLES THROUGH HER STORY
AND WHEN WILLIE SAW YOUR SWEATER ALL LIKE THAT... HE-HE THOUGHT THEY'D K-KILLED YOU.
HE WENT AND HE TOOK YOUR OTHER GUN —
GUN? WILLIE?
HE'S COLD BERSERK, SAM! HE'S GONE FOR A SHOWDOWN! AND THAT'S JUST WHAT THEY WANT HIM TO DO!
329

MODESTY

by PETER O'DONNELL

I'LL GET A POLICE SQUAD TO MEET US ON THE ROAD OUT OF TOWN
HOW LONG HAS WILLIE BEEN GONE, MARY?
I-I DON'T KNOW. AN HOUR?
HOW MANY MEN HAS GABRIEL GOT?
EIGHT, NINE, ENOUGH! AND ALL AWAITING FOR WILLIE — HE'LL NEVER EVEN GET INTO THE HOUSE ALIVE!
HE'LL GET IN.... AND HE'LL STAY ALIVE LONG ENOUGH TO KILL GABRIEL THAT'S ALL HE CARES ABOUT NOW
330

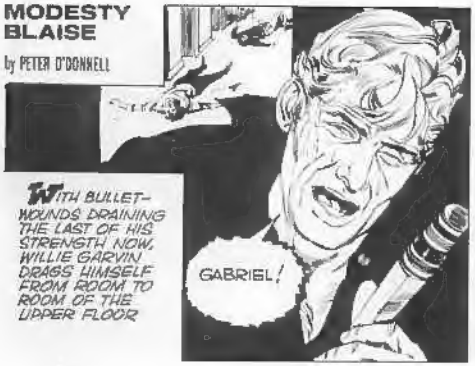
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WE'LL NEVER CATCH WILLIE — HE'LL BE AT GABRIEL'S PLACE BY NOW.
I KNOW! BUT THERE'LL BE SOMETHING LEFT FOR ME TO DO!
AT LAKESIDE GABRIEL'S MEN WATCH TALLY
KEEP YOUR EYES ON THOSE TREES GARVIN'S JUNGLE-TRAINED. HE KNOWS HOW TO USE COVER
HE'S GOING TO RUN OUT OF COVER A LONG WAY OFF —
HEY, THERE'S A TRUCK COMING WE EXPECTING ANYTHING, GABRIEL?
331
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WHAT THE HELL?
SHOOT YOU FOOLS! SHOOT! IT'S GARVIN! HE'S GOING TO RAM HIS WAY IN!
ERE WE GO, PRINCESS
332
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
AT THE LAST MOMENT AS THE HUGE TRUCK POUNDS STRAIGHT AT ONE OF THE WINDOWS WILLIE HURLS HIMSELF FROM THE CAB ROLLING LIKE A BALL
333
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WILLIE CRAWLS THROUGH UNDER THE TRUCK HE HAS USED TO SMASH HIS WAY IN TO LAKESIDE!
SCORE ONE, PRINCESS
HE'LL BE COMING THROUGH! YOU, CREVIER— GET HIM!

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
TWO GUNS FIRE AS ONE...
HE'S GOT CREVIER!
STREWTH RIGHT ON THE DOTER THAT'S A GIGGLE, EH PRINCESS? OO SAID I COULDN'T IT A BARN STANDING INS DE IT..?
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WATCH THAT DOOR! BLAST HIM WHEN HE SHOWS!
BUT WILLIE GARVIN HAS ALREADY DOUBLED BACK ON HIS TRACKS
WE GOT TWO SO FAR, PRINCESS.. RECKON THE OTHERS'LL BE WATCHING THE 'ALL NOW
BETTER NOT PUSH MY LUCK TRYING A SHOT THIS TIME...
336
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
LERI! GET OUTSIDE AND TAKE HIM FROM BEHIND!
GABRIEL'S MEN WATCH THE ROOM WHERE WILLIE GARVIN SHOULD BE.
RIGHT
BUT WILLIE IS A LONG JUMP AHEAD
337
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
I HAD NORSTENE WATCH THE LOWER WINDOW AND LERI DIDN'T COME OUT!
THEN GARVIN GOT TO HIM FIRST.
WATCH LERI'S ROOM! GARVIN'S THERE NOW.
WILLIE HEAVES LERI'S UNCONSCIOUS BULK ON TO A TROLLEY
WE'LL GIVE 'EM SOMETHING TO SHOOT AT, EH, LERI?
338

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
I'M COMIN' FOR YOU GABRIEL!
NOW!
THE TROLLEY BEARING LEP'S LIMP FORM HURTLES ACROSS THE HALL, DRAWING A PANICKY BURST OF FIRE . . .
339
AND WILLIE GARVIN MOVES OUT, BOTH GUNS BLAZING AT CLOSE RANGE
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WILLIE GARVIN FIGHTS HIS LONE BATTLE AT 'LAKESIDE' ... AND WITH FIVE MEN ALREADY DEAD, GABRIEL'S COLD NERVE CRACKS
GET HIM! GET HIM, RICCO!
340
AAGH!
RICCO DIES — BUT HIS LAST SHOT SLAMS INTO WILLIE'S LEG
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
NOT A GABRIEL MAN IS LEFT ALIVE ON THE GROUND FLOOR NOW — AND WILLIE GARVIN MOVES PAINFULLY UP THE STAIRS, WITH TWO BULLETS IN HIM . . .
LAST LAP, PRINCESS... DON'T WORRY ... WILLIE'LL MAKE IT
LET'S 'AVE YOU, GABRIEL! COME OUT, YOU YELLER GITT!
ONE ARM EACH... LEVEL PEGGINGS, EH?
341
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
A SHARP HEAD-BUTT TO THE NOSE, THEN A CRUSHING PRESSURE ON NORSTENE'S GUN-HAND
SCORE SEVEN, PRINCESS...
EIGHT...
342

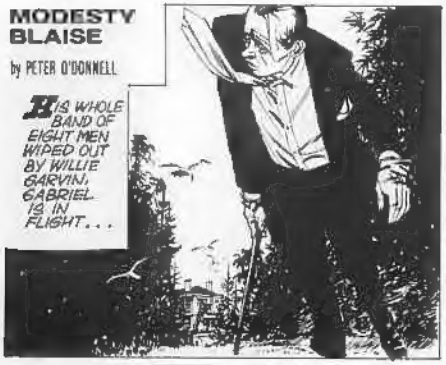
MODESTY BLAISE

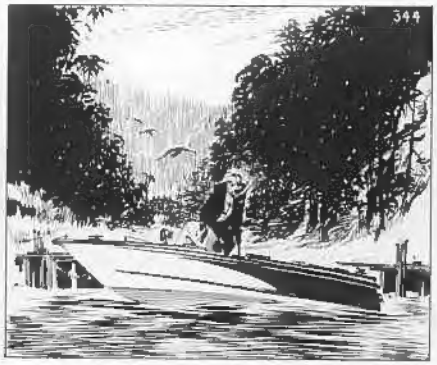
by PETER O'DONNELL


With bullet-wounds draining the last of his strength now, Willie Garvin drags himself from room to room of the upper floor
GABRIEL!

MODESTY BLAISE

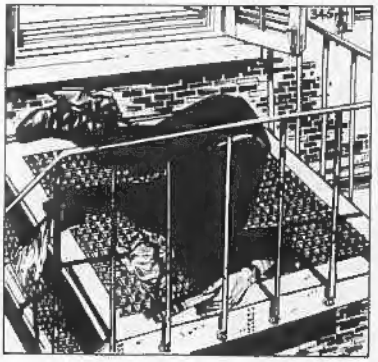
by PETER O'DONNELL





MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL



MODESTY BLAISE

by PETER O'DONNELL

With a police squad behind them, Modesty and Sam Barth scream down the road to 'Lakeside'

THEY COULD HAVE KNOCKED HIM OFF AN HOUR AGO AND BE QUIETLY HAVING BREAKFAST NOW—MY GOD, THERE'S A TRUCK HALFWAY THROUGH THE WALL!
POLICE

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WILLIE! WILLIE, IT'S ME!
WHAT THE HELL'S BEEN THROUGH HERE, MR BARTH — AN ARMY?
YEAH... NAME OF GARVIN
WILLIE! WILLIE, LOVE!
347
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WILLIE PLAYED IT FOR KEEPS, MODESTY, EIGHT FOR THE MORTUARY! BUT NO SIGN OF GABRIEL HIMSELF, OR OF —
AHH...
I GUESS HE SAVED THIS FOR GABRIEL...
SAM! THERE'S STILL A PULSE!
HELP ME STOP THE BLEEDING!
AMBULANCE! FAST! AND HAVE SOME SHEETS AND TOWELS BROUGHT OUT!
348
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
EVENING, IN THE CARSTAIRS HOSPITAL, TREMONT...
STILL HERE, MISS BLAISE? YOU REALLY SHOULD GET SOME REST
IS HE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT?
WELL... WE'VE REMOVED THE BULLETS, AND THERE'S NO PERMANENT DAMAGE...
BUT HE LOST A DANGEROUS AMOUNT OF BLOOD, AND HE'S VERY WEAK... I'D SAY A LOT DEPENDS ON HOW HARD HE FIGHTS TO SURVIVE, MENTALLY
349
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
SAM BARTH ARRIVES AT THE HOSPITAL...
HALLO, MODESTY— WHAT'S THE NEWS ON WILLIE?
STILL UNCONSCIOUS... BUT THEY'RE LETTING ME SEE HIM IN A FEW MINUTES
SORRY I'VE LEFT YOU ON YOUR OWN ALL DAY, BUT THERE WERE THINGS TO DO— WE'VE CLEANED UP THE PHOENIX, AND COLLECTED THE MICRO-FILMS WILLIE CACHED
BUT WE STILL HAVEN'T CAUGHT UP WITH GABRIEL HIMSELF
I'LL THINK ABOUT GABRIEL LATER...
350

MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
YES...HE'S FLYING OVER NEXT WEEK TO GO THROUGH THE PHOENIX FILES WITH US — THEY'RE AN INTELLIGENCE GOLD MINE...
DID YOU CONTACT SIR GERALD TARRANT?
OH, AND MARJ HAS GONE, MODESTY... SHE SAID FOR YOU TO GIVE WILLIE HER LOVE, AND I WAS TO TELL YOU THAT YOU WERE RIGHT
DO YOU KNOW WHAT SHE MEANT?
I TOLD HER THAT WILLIE WOULD BE ...MOVING ON
351
YOU CAN SEE HIM NOW, MISS BLAISE
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
WILL HE LIVE?
HE'S GOT THE PHYSICAL STRENGTH TO COME OUT OF THIS AS GOOD AS NEW — AS LONG AS HE HASN'T LOST THE WILL TO SURVIVE
WILLIE, IT'S ME... AND I'M FINE... I'M RIGHT HE [redacted] WITH YOU, WILLIE LOVE... PLEASE TRY TO HEAR WHAT I'M SAYING
THE EYELIDS FLICKER, AND THE LIMP FINGERS TIGHTEN FEEBLY ON MODESTY'S HAND
AH! YOU'VE REACHED HIM, MISS BLAISE
352
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
I'M SAFE, WILLIE, THEY DIDN'T KILL ME! DO YOU UNDERSTAND? IT WAS ALL A BLUFF!
PRINCESS...
BLIMEY... THEY MADE... RIGHT CHARLIE ...OUT OF ME, EH...?
WILLIE'S EYES CLOSE...
YES...YOU'RE GOING TO BE FINE, WILLIE
BIT TIRED NOW... BE ALL RIGHT SOON, THOUGH...
353
MODESTY BLAISE
by PETER O'DONNELL
TWO WEEKS AFTER THE BATTLE AT "LAKESIDE"
I'M GLAD I'VE GOT TIME TO SAY GOODBYE TO WILLIE BEFORE I CATCH MY PLANE — IS HE STILL GOING ALONG WELL?
HE'S AMAZED THE DOCTORS, SIR GERALD...
AND THE NURSES, I UNDERSTAND
THEY'VE HAD TO START LOOKING AFTER HIM IN PAIRS NOW!
354